

Borough of Bexhill.

Medical Officer of Health's Annual Report

FOR

Year ended DECEMBER 31st, 1913,

INCLUDING

Report of the Sanitary Inspector,

AND THE

Report of the Medical Inspection of

Children in Elementary Schools.

Borough of Bexhill.

Area of the Borough ...	...	8,013 acres
Rateable Value...	...	£125,734
Population ...	...	16,000
Number of Houses ...	...	3,438
Gross Death Rate ...	...	11·51* per 1,000
Corrected ditto ...	...	9·47* „
Birth Rate ...	...	15·25 „
Infantile Mortality Rate ...	...	53·27 „
Death Rate from Zymotic Diseases	0·50	„
Mean Annual Temperature ...	...	51·9
Hours of Bright Sunshine ...	...	1604·9 hours
Total Rainfall ...	...	27·72 inches

* Corrected by Factor.

SANITARY COMMITTEE.

Nov. 1912 --Nov. 1913.

THE MAYOR—DANIEL MAYER, ESQ., J.P.

THE DEPUTY-MAYOR—Alderman F. BOND, M.A.

Mr. Councillor G. H. GRAY, (*Chairman*).

„ Alderman E. G. F. FITCH-JONES.

„ „ G. COOPER.

„ „ J. B. WALL.

Mr. Councillor G. COPPARD.

„ „ F. S. DUNN.

„ „ J. GIBB.

„ „ W. HARDIE.

„ „ C. J. KOHLER.

„ „ J. ROGERS.

„ „ A. J. SANSOM, M.A.

„ „ J. E. STEVENS.

„ „ C. G. YOUNG, M.A., M.D.

In Nov. 1913, Mr. G. H. GRAY was re-elected Chairman.

Staff.

(Medical Officer of Health :

G. H. WESTON, B.A., M.B., D.P.H., Camb., &c.

Sanitary Inspector :

ALFRED FLINT, A.R. SAN. I.

(Meteorologist :

GEORGE BRISLEY, M.P.S., till June 30th.

Clerk :

E. A. ELPHICK.

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To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Bexhill.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of submitting the Annual Report for the year 1913. The Report of the Sanitary Inspector, with tables shewing work done, is incorporated.

On February 1st the General Order of the Local Government Board, with regulations as to the Notification and Treatment of all forms of Tuberculosis, came into force.

The increase in the notifiable cases, and consequent need for investigation into the housing conditions and prevention, has thrown increased work on your Sanitary Department.

It is to be hoped that it may become possible in the near future to fill up the gaps in the present scheme by providing sanatorium treatment for the children and dependents affected, and homes for the isolation of advanced cases.

In July the Department took over the direct control of the Meteorological Work. A reference to the report should prove that the climate of Bexhill can compare favourably with that of other places.

Attention is also drawn to the Water Supply, which, owing to the means taken for its protection, has shewn uniform purity on each analysis.

I have to thank the Chairman and Members of the Sanitary Committee for their support.

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

G. H. WESTON.

Population, &c.

The area of the district is 8,013 acres. There are 521 acres of foreshore, and 11 acres of inland water. The Borough is situated partly on the sea front and partly on gentle slopes rising behind to 150 feet above sea level. It is thus open throughout its whole extent to the sea breezes from the south and west but is partly protected on the north and east. Owing to the fact that the North Sea and Channel tides meet in its vicinity the climate partakes of the advantages of the winds brought by both, and is mild, bracing, and, from the number of open spaces, airy.

There are no manufacturies or occupation especially injurious to health.

The character of the population is residential, with a relatively large number of hotels and apartment houses. There are also a number of private preparatory schools. The houses inhabited by the working classes are mostly of modern date and have plenty of air space around them, but in consequence of the relatively high rentals, often more than one family inhabit the same house in flats or otherwise.

The estimated population at middle of year was 16,000 persons resident, which is probably more than doubled during the summer months.

The census returns of 1911, taken early in the year, gave a population of 15,330 including 6,065 males and 9,265 females, and composed of 3,314 families or separate occupiers, a larger number than that of the separate houses built at that time.

The number of houses erected and certified as fit for occupation during the year was 67, making a total of 3,438 houses.

The number of unoccupied houses shews a decided decrease.

Year	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913
Unoccupied Houses	210	231	223	not taken, probably owing to census.	139	105

The population has been calculated on a basis of 4·8 persons per house.

The following table shews the rate of increase in the population at the census years since 1881.

Year	1881	1891	1901	1911	1912	1913
	<i>census</i>	<i>census</i>	<i>census</i>	<i>census</i>	<i>est.</i>	<i>est.</i>
Pop.	2452	5026	12210	15331	15728	16000

Density of population, 2·00 persons per acre.

During the year ending Sept. 30th, the amount of out relief given was £404 14s. 8d.

During the year 1913, the unemployment claims made numbered 537.

During the year 1913, inquiries made shewed that 48 passages had been booked for Canada, Australia, &c., as emigrants.

The number of patients treated at the Hospitals (in and out) was 526.

The distribution of the population according to the Wards is approximately estimated and shewn in the following table.

Ward.	Persons per House.	Population.	Houses erect'd during year 1913.	Total number of houses.
Sackville ..	6.4	3046	19	492
Central ..	4.4	4351	7	1042
Egerton Park	4.5	2556	26	582
Old Town ..	4.5	2889	—	651
St. Mark's ..	4.8	3129	15	671
	4.8	15,971	67	3,438

Births.

There were 244 births registered during 1913, comprising those of 120 males and 124 females.

There were 22 illegitimate births, 11 male and 11 female, a proportion of 90.16 per 1,000 births against 70.58 last year.

The Birth Rate for Bexhill this year is 15.25 per 1,000 of population.

The following table gives the number of births registered divided into males and females for this district, compared with those for the combined counties of England and Wales for the years stated.

Year.	No. of Births.	Male.	Female.	BEXHILL.	England & Wales.
Birth Rate per 1,000.					
1896	192	97	95	23.5	29.7
1897	218	109	109	24.46	29.7
1898	253	135	118	22.49	29.4
1899	265	119	146	22.08	29.3
1900	307	152	155	24.17	28.9
1901	306	156	150	25.06	28.5
1902	280	150	130	21.78	28.6
1903	243	122	121	17.61	28.4
1904	243	107	136	17.35	27.9
1905	239	127	112	15.64	27.2
1906	267	136	131	17.8	27.0
1907	259	127	132	16.81	26.3
1908	297	163	134	18.56	26.5
1909	241	118	123	14.87	25.6
1910	250	133	117	15.13	24.8
1911	248	133	115	16.00	24.4
1912	255	136	119	16.21	23.8
1913	244	120	124	15.25	23.9

Table giving number of births in each Ward.

Ward.	No. of Births.	Male.	Female.	Birth Rate.
Sackville ... (1 illegitimate)	14	9	5	
Central ... (6 illegitimate)	64	32	32	
Egerton Park ... (4 illegitimate)	35	18	17	
Old Town ... (5 illegitimate)	65	31	34	
St. Mark's ... (4 illegitimate)	63	28	35	

There were 3 notices of births (2 illegitimate) received from the Registrar General as having occurred outside the district, to be added to these figures.

Deaths.

There were 162 deaths registered in the district, and 24 residents who died outside during the year, of which 89 were males and 97 females.

The gross death rate, in which all the deaths occurring in the Borough are estimated, also those of residents who have died outside the district, of which notice is now sent from the County Medical Officer = 11.51 per 1,000.

After deducting the deaths of visitors and those of the temporary residents in the various homes and including those of residents who have died out of the district, the corrected Death Rate = 9.47 per 1,000.

The death rate for England and Wales	...	...	13.4
" " 96 Great Towns (including Lond.)			14.7
" " 145 Smaller Towns	...	...	13.0
" " England & Wales, less the 241 Towns	...	...	12.1
" " London	...	...	14.2

Year.	No. of Deaths.	Death Rate.	Corrected Death Rate.	Death Rate of England and Wales.
1896	106	13.00	11.5	17.1
1897	97	10.88	9.98	7.4
1898	129	11.46	10.22	17.6
1899	143	11.91	11.00	18.3
1900	151	12.23	10.12	18.3
1901	153	12.53	10.40	16.0
1902	154	11.98	9.80	16.3
1903	123	18.90	7.61	15.4
1904	133	9.5	8.21	16.2
1905	151	10.31	7.85	15.2
1906	169	11.26	8.8	15.4
1907	153	9.87	7.93	15.0
1908	155	9.68	7.37	14.7
1909	161	9.93	7.84	14.5
1910	131	7.93	6.66	13.4
1911	106	12.64	10.70	14.6
1912	171	10.87	9.31	13.3
1913	186	11.51*	9.47*	13.7

* Corrected by Factor.

Table of Deaths.

Causes of Deaths in Bexhill	Total Deaths	Sex.	Ages at Death.																							
			0-1		1-5		5-10		10-15		15-20		20-25		25-35		35-45		45-55		55-65		65-75		75 & up	
			M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Small Pox ...	3	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Typhoid Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhoea ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	2	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Septic Diseases	3	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Influenza ...	5	2	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis ...	16	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tubercular Diseases	5	3	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cancer ...	22	6	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Alcoholism ...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rheumatism ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nervous Diseases	21	10	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Convulsions ...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Circulatory Diseases...	27	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Respiratory ...	3	1	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis ...	6	2	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia ...	8	6	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pleurisy ...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Digestive Diseases	6	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Urinary ...	9	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Uterus & Ovaries, Diseases of	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Premature Birth ...	4	3	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Atrophy & Low Vitality	3	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Old Age ...	11	7	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Child Birth ...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Accidents & Violence	7	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteritis ...	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Appendicitis ...	5	3	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Causes ...	7	3	4	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

The following table gives the number of deaths occurring in each Ward.

Ward.	No. of Deaths	Gross Death Rate.	Corrected Death Rate.	Zymotic Rate.
Sackville ...	50	17'07	10'17	0'0
Central ...	41	10'80	9'88	0'6
Egerton Park ...	23	9'78	8'60	0'39
Old Town ...	27	11'42	10'73	0'34
St. Mark's ...	21	9'26	8'31	0'95

Most of the deaths in Institutions, Homes, etc., were in Sackville Ward.

Senile Mortality.

There were in 1913 78 deaths of persons over 65 years of age.

Between 65--75 years of age—20 males 19 females ...

„ 75—85 „ 13 males 18 females ...

Over 85 „ 3 males 5 females ...

Deaths due to Accident or Violence.

There were 7 deaths due to these causes this year.

Two occurred in Bexhill.

One from shock from fractured thigh.

One from means to procure abortion.

Three of residents in Bexhill who died outside—

One from heart failure under anæsthetic.

One from fractured skull from fall.

One from fractured skull, result of cycle accident.

SUICIDES :—

One by hanging.

One by shooting.

Inquests were held on four cases at Bexhill, and in the other three cases elsewhere.

Uncertified Deaths.

There were three uncertified deaths during the year.

The cause being returned as follows :

One from heart failure, one from heart disease, and one from senile decay.

The Coroner is notified in those cases where no Medical Certificate has been given.

Infantile Mortality.

Infantile mortality is calculated on the number of registered births, and in this connection "infants" are children under one year of age. During the year the number of infant deaths in the district was 8 males and 5 females.

The number of births being 244, this gives a rate of 53·27 per 1,000.

The causes are given in Table IV, page 41.

The Infantile mortality for

Bexhill	53·27 per 1,000 births.
England and Wales	109 "
96 Great Towns (including Lon.)	117 "
145 Smaller Towns	112 "
England and Wales (less the 241 towns)	96 "
London	105 "

Deaths from Zymotic Diseases.

There were 8 deaths from this group of diseases, from

ZYMOTIC DEATH RATE FOR THE LAST 10 YEARS.

1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913
0·14	0·75	0·93	0·51	0·31	0·12	0·12	1·16	0·31	0·50

Phthisis.

There were 17 deaths from Phthisis, 3 being visitors to the town.

This gives a death rate among the residents of 0·87 per 1,000.

1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913
0·93	0·77	0·62	0·43	0·78	0·38	0·95	0·87

Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1908-1911.

1.—Under the Regulations of 1908, providing for the notification of Pulmonary Tuberculosis occurring amongst the inmates of Poor Law Institutions or amongst persons under the care of District Medical Officers, one case has been notified.

2.—Under the Regulations of 1911 applying to Notification of cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis under treatment in Hospitals, no cases have been notified.

3.—Under the Regulations of 1911 applying to Notification of all cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis found in private practice, one case has been notified.

On February 1st, 1913, the Regulations as to the Notification and Treatment of Tuberculosis, as set out in the General Order of 19th December, 1912, came into force, thereby revoking the previous regulations of 1908-1911.

During the year 1913, including the two cases mentioned above, the following Notifications have been received.

Primary Notifications (Forms A and B).

Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	29.
Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	5.

Secondary Notifications (Forms C and D).

From Sanatoria	...	2.
From Poor Law Union (Battle)	...	2.

YEARS OF AGE.

	0-1	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-65	Total
Pulmonary Tuberculosis								
Males			1	2	6	3	4	16
Females		1	1	2	4	2	3	13
Other forms of Tuberculosis								
Males		2	1	...	...	...	...	3
Females		2	...	...	...	...	...	2

For these, treatment in Sanatorium was obtained.

Under National Health Insurance	(Eversfield Hosp., Hast.	2
—per County Council	(Portslade	1
Privately	... Ore	2
Poor Law Infirmary	... Battle	2
Children's home treatment arranged for, but parents refused		1
Visitors who came for temporary change of air and returned		4
Belonging to other districts and returned to home elsewhere		1
Diagnosis doubtful, found on subsequent enquiries to be much improved		7
Conditions of damp found, change of house recommended		3
Contacts found sleeping in same room as patient		7
Treatment obtained at General Hospital (Hastings)		5
Died—up to date, February 10th, 1914		9

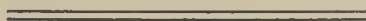
Under the National Insurance Act in non-County Boroughs a dual responsibility results. The East Sussex County Council through the Insurance Committee receives the money for and is responsible for the Sanatorium Benefits," which include treatment in a Sanatorium, Domiciliary Treatment and the provision of a Tuberculosis Dispensary. The Borough is responsible for the housing conditions and the supervision of Contacts. The difficulties which have been found in improving the housing conditions and securing larger and drier separate rooms for the patients are dealt with later in the report. The question of the effect of bovine tuberculosis as a source of infection has further engaged the attention of the Sanitary Committee, who are anxious that every milk supply, whether from inside or outside the Borough, should be periodically tested for tubercle.

It is a matter of regret that the present scheme as applied locally does not include "dependents," and that the opportunity of successfully treating children under sixteen years of age, lives of potential value to the community may be lost from the difficulty and delay in securing outside sanatorium treatment.

When the Act came into operation it was hoped that the services of the Tuberculosis Officer and Dispensary would be available to clear up doubtful cases before notification, and thereby make the figures more reliable. Unfortunately, as the Tuberculosis Dispensary was not started until the last day of the year such assistance was not available. In the future it will be open for all, without being restricted to insured members. The hours are:—Wednesdays, 5.30—7.30 p.m., and Saturdays, 12—2 p.m.

Tuberculosis Order, 1913 (Animals).

No Notifications have been sent under this Order. From enquiries made two animals appear to have been killed under suspicion. No information was given to the Authority at the time, nor facilities given to inspect after killing.



Infectious Diseases.

The Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1889, and Notification Act, 1890, are both in force, requiring the Notification of Small Pox, Cholera, Diphtheria, Membranous Croup, Erysipelas, Scarlatina, Scarlet Fever, and the following fevers :—Typhus, Typhoid or Enteric, Relapsing, Continued or Puerperal. To these Acute Polio Myelitis and Cerebro Spinal Fever were added in 1912, and Measles and Rotheln in 1892.

There were 12 throat swabs sent for examination for the Diphtheria (*Klebs Loeffler*) Bacillus at the expense of the Council.

3 were sent from the Hospital to establish freedom from infectivity before discharge, and were reported negative. As a routine method, swabs are sent up for examination in all cases of suspected Diphtheria at the Council's expense in necessitous cases before Notification.

1 swab was sent up, and, as the bacillus was found, the case was admitted into the Hospital.

The swabs from the other case of Diphtheria, which was isolated at home, was sent up privately.

One specimen of Sputum was sent up for examination for the Tubercle Bacillus, with a positive result.

In consequence of an outbreak of Scarlet Fever at the Little Folks' Home, a sample of milk was sent up. The report received shewed no evidence of the milk supply being the source of infection, nor did Scarlet Fever break out in the other houses or School supplied from the same source.

One bulb of Antidiphtheria Serum has been supplied by the Corporation.

During the year 189 cases of Notifiable Diseases were notified at a cost of £22 12s. 3d., and 24 by parents and others.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apl	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Measles	30	73	8	3	2		1		3	1		
Rotheln	3	1		1			2				1	
Scarlet Fever	6	4		2	1	5	2	3		3	11	2
Diphtheria		1	1*				1					
Erysipelas							1		1			
Puerperal Fever												
Typhoid Fever												
Membranous Croup												

*The Notification was withdrawn as the swab sent up proved negative.

The following table shows the number of cases of infectious diseases notified for the past 10 years.

	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913
Scarlet Fever	11	13	20	19	41	18	25	4	29	39
Diphtheria	14	8	4	7	5	7	20	7	9	2
Measles	22	205	249	49	33	64	25	887	200	124
Rotheln	21	15	4	3	5	5		66	12	8
Typhoid Fever		2	7	2		2	2	4	2	
Puerperal Fever	1	1	3		2		2	1	1	
Erysipelas	6	6	12	9	2	3	1	5	2	2
Membran's Croup									1	
Total	75	250	299	89	88	99	81	974	256	175

The Ward distribution of the Infectious diseases will be found on Table III at the end of the Report.

Scarlet Fever.

There were thirty-nine cases notified during the year. Of these thirty-eight were notified by the doctor attending. One case, the brother of a patient already in the Hospital, was found to be desquamating and detained in Hospital.

Three of the cases notified during January were of a severe type, and one child of three years of age died.

Thirty-three cases were admitted to the Hospital during the year. Nineteen cases were children attending the Elementary Schools, and three scholars attending private Schools.

In October and November the Little Folks' Home at Cooden was attacked while the Scarlet Fever Wards at the Hospital were under repair. Three of the eight cases were removed at once and placed in the Diphtheria Ward, which had been empty for some time, and after the remaining five had, as soon as was practicable, also been removed to the Hospital, the Home was closed, and thoroughly disinfected.

The milk supply was examined without throwing any light on the source of infection, which, probably, was brought down from London.

Another of the cases was a visitor from London, who certainly brought the disease down with him, as he fell ill immediately on arrival. It has been fortunate that with the high state of prevalence elsewhere there were not more cases.

The Elementary Schools have been left under constant supervision, and inspected both as to contacts and suspects.

Diphtheria.

Two cases of Diphtheria were notified, the swabs taken proving positive. In a third case, the swab proving negative, the notification was withdrawn.

One case was admitted to the Hospital, and the other was isolated in a separate ward at the Institution, where the case occurred. Both recovered. The sanitary conditions were carefully investigated.

In eight cases the examination of swabs in suspicious cases gave negative results, and the value of restricting the notification as far as possible to positive cases became evident.

Enteric Fever.

No case was notified during the year.

Measles.

One hundred and one cases of Measles were notified by the doctors attending, and 23 by the parents. Most of the cases were during the months of January and February, and were scattered throughout the district.

Eight of the private schools were attacked.

One death occurred from the disease.

German Measles.

Eight cases were notified, all of a mild character.

The disinfection of rooms, after being occupied by infectious cases, is undertaken by the Council, and is carried out by means of formalin generated in a Ligner's apparatus, which has given every satisfaction.

The rooms are afterwards stripped of the wall-paper, which is burnt, the ceilings whitewashed, and the rooms thoroughly cleansed, the owner of the premises being called upon to do this.

136 rooms were disinfected.

No. I. Visits, &c., and Notices Served.

Particulars.						
Visits in respect of sickness...	...	...	...	...	...	266
No. of Rooms disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	136
„ Notices sent to private houses, <i>re</i> sickness	...	...	...	...	...	69
„ Notices sent to Schools, <i>re</i> sickness	...	...	...	...	...	72
„ Visits to Isolation Hospital or Disinfector	...	...	...	...	...	170

No. II. Particulars of Work Executed.

By Owners.						
To thoroughly cleanse and whitewash interior of house...	...	...	...	...	...	0
„ Cleanse, purify, strip, and whitewash rooms	...	...	...	...	...	12
TOTAL						12

By Occupiers.						
To cleanse or whitewash interior of house	...	...	...	...	...	0
„ Strip and whitewash rooms	...	...	...	...	...	6
„ Cleanse rooms	...	...	...	...	...	34
TOTAL						40

Vaccination.

I have been furnished with the following figures through the kindness of the Vaccination Officer, Mr. Cane:—

	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913
Births during the year	237	267	259	297	241	251	248	255	244
Successfully vaccinated	210	224	211	217	147	135	158	138	142
Removed unvaccinated	16	11	27	9	15	20	16	8	21
Exemptions under Sec. 11	29	38	32	91	93	108	84	103	128
Summons under the Act	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convictions	...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

The number of births do not correspond exactly with the other Statistics for obvious reasons, as children born at end of year would be vaccinated in the next. The increase in the number of exemptions is a matter for serious consideration in the future, in view of a possible recurrence of Small Pox in the Country.

Percentages to No. of Births.

		1909	1910	1911	1912	1913
Successfully vaccinated ...	...	60.9	53.7	63.6	54.1	58.2
Exemptions ...	...	38.5	43.	33.4	40.4	52.5

Small Pox.

An agreement has been entered into with the Hastings Corporation for retaining certain beds for the reception and maintenance, in their Small Pox Hospital at Brede, of any cases which may occur in this district.

Isolation Hospital.

This consists of :—Firstly, a corrugated iron building, with two wards of 5 beds each for Scarlet Fever cases.

Secondly, another building of the same style, with two wards of 3 beds each.

Thirdly, a group of 3 Berthon Huts, one being used as the Matron's sitting room and dining room, the other two having 4 beds.

There is a small brick building connected to the centre hut by a covered way which contains kitchen, maid's bedroom, and larder. A small lean-to washhouse is attached.

Lighting is by paraffin lamp, and there are earth closets.

The town water is laid on to each block. The trouble which had been found in the previous year due to settlement in the pipes was relieved during the year by another house being connected with the main, the Hospital no longer being at the dead end of the supply.

The Hospital buildings being, from their temporary character, no longer weatherproof, the nursing of the Scarlet Fever patients has been a source of very great anxiety to the Staff. During the gales of January the water entered to such an extent as to make one of the Scarlet Fever Wards uninhabitable. In consequence of it not being possible to separate acute from convalescent cases one of the latter became re-infected by an acute case admitted just before his discharge. In November the Scarlet Fever Wards were lined with "Etermit" Asbestos slabs, and the outside painted, as a temporary measure, and the nurse's bedroom was turned into a bathroom.

Accommodation is badly required to provide beds for observation purposes.

Means for separation of acute from convalescent cases.

A proper outbathing and discharge station. The patients are generally at present bathed before the kitchen fire.

A laundry, with proper means for drying, &c., to replace the present lean-to outhouse.

An administration block, with proper accommodation for the staff, who cannot reasonably be expected to sleep in rooms which would be condemned if found elsewhere.

The Council have under consideration the erection of permanent buildings for Administration Block, Acute Scarlet Fever Ward, Observation Ward, Diphtheria and Typhoid Wards, Laundry, &c., which, with the addition of the present temporary buildings, would give the accommodation required.

Six cases of Scarlet Fever were in the Hospital at the beginning of the year.

During the year thirty-three cases of Scarlet Fever were admitted, and one case of Diphtheria.

The Hospital was empty for 14 days on two occasions, making 28 days altogether. On each occasion the time was utilised in thoroughly cleaning and disinfecting the wards, bedding, etc.

Scale of Charges for Maintenance at the Isolation Hospital, Clinch Green.

1. Where income of patient or parent, etc., does not exceed 30s. per week no charge will be made. Alternately, no charge will be made in respect of persons living in houses of rateable value of £12 and under.

2. Where income exceeds 30s. per week, but does not exceed £200 per annum, members of family will be charged:

Patients not exceeding 14 years of age, 7s. 6d. per week.

Patients exceeding 14 years of age, 10s. 6d. per week.

Alternately a similar charge made in respect of persons living in houses of rateable value over £12 but under £35.

3. Where income exceeds £200 per annum, members of family will be charged 15s. per week. Alternately, a like charge may be made in respect of persons living in houses of rateable value over £35.

4. The charge in respect of patients admitted from boarding schools in the town, £1 per week.

5. In case of visitors to Bexhill (*i.e.*, persons temporarily resident for not exceeding four months at a time), £1 1s. per week.

N.B.—No charge for domestic servants in Classes Nos. 1 & 2.

Conveyance.

No charge will be made for persons in Class 1, or domestic servants in Classes 1 and 2.

In other cases a charge of 5s. for each journey.

Hospital.

Expenditure for the year ending the 30th September, 1913, as
supplied by the Borough Accountant.

	£	s.	d.
Nursing	99	8	6
Subsidy, Small Pox Hospital	8	8	0
Specimens examined	2	4	3
Maintenance of Patients—			
Meat	33	5	2
Fish	3	10	8
Bread	7	10	11
Milk and Eggs	23	11	7
Groceries	38	12	1
Vegetables, Fruit, &c.	2	5	2
Repairs to Buildings and Painting	9	8	7
Oil, Turpentine, &c.	4	4	8
Fuel	24	8	1
Horse Hire—Removal of Patients	8	2	6
Wages	36	3	9
Water	2	16	6
Insurance	1	8	8
Telephones	15	5	0
Repairs to Ambulance		5	0
Fixing Copper	3	10	0
Brooms, &c.	1	1	9
Disinfectant	1	14	7
Compensation—F. Smith	2	10	0
Sheets and Blankets	7	18	5
Medicine	4	2	8
National Health Insurance (Council's Contribution)	1	6	0
Miscellaneous	1	17	1
	<hr/>		
	344	19	7
Recovered from Patients	27	1	1
	<hr/>		
	£317	18	6
	<hr/>		

Disinfector.

The Steam Disinfector has worked satisfactorily during the year.

The number of articles disinfected were as follows :—

Beds	...	...	...	...	13
Mattresses or Palliasses	...	...	...	...	35
Bolsters	...	...	...	...	12
Pillows	...	...	...	...	70
Sheets, Blankets, &c.	...	...	...	...	148
Cushions	...	...	...	...	5
Wearing Apparel, &c.	...	...	...	...	66
					<hr/>
					349
					<hr/>

Disinfector Expenditure.

					£	s.	d.
Joints, Solution, &c., for doors to							
Disinfector	...	...	...	...	3	16	6
Insurance of Boiler	...	...	...	...	2	0	6
„ „ Building	...	...	...	...	8	11	
Repayment of Loans	..	...	...	...	47	3	2
Removal of Bedding	...	...	...	...	4	12	6
Wages	...	...	...	...	6	12	11
Sundries	...	...	...	...	7	1	
Valves	...	...	...	...	19	3	
					<hr/>		
					£66	0	10
					<hr/>		

Water Supply.

The town generally is supplied by the Bexhill Water and Gas Company, whose mains extend to the adjoining suburbs of Little Common and Cooden. The supply is constant and is obtained from springs or wells at Hazards Green, Sweet Willow Wood, and Buckholt. The water from Hazards Green, after aerations and filtrations on the spot, is pumped into the high level covered reservoir at Ninfield. The water derived from Sweet Willow Wood is aerated on the spot and thence pumped to the Company's filter beds at Wrestwood. The Buckholt water is also pumped to the Wrestwood filter beds for treatment.

The different sources of supply are drawn from the sandstone beneath the upper clay and removed from any possible chance of contamination. During previous years it had been found that the

entrance of surface water into the well at Buckholt had, in times of flood and storms, shewn evidence of its presence in some of the Analyses taken. To obviate the further possibility of this recurring, the sides of the Buckholt well were protected, with the result that all the analyses taken quarterly during the year proved satisfactory, and above the usual standard of bacteriological purity. The Buckholt supply was specially tested on the completion of the work.

I am informed by the Company's Engineer that the average daily output amounts to 542,000 gallons.

The number of houses in Bexhill supplied by the Water Company at the end of the year was 2,833, and of hotels, shops, stables, &c. 187.

The number of houses to which the Water Company's water was laid on during the year was 92.

The water, as pumped up from the wells, contained a certain amount of oxide of iron, which is almost entirely got rid of by filtration, the amount remaining in the general circulation averaging about 0.03 grain per gallon, or practically nil. In some of the dead ends, however, this small amount has collected and somewhat discoloured the water in the houses adjoining. There being no excess of Carbonic Acid beyond the quantity just sufficient to hold in solution the small quantities of carbonate of lime and carbonate of magnesia (4.2 grains and 2.1 grains per gallon, respectively) or organic matter of an acid nature, it is not likely that the iron pipes should have themselves been attacked.

The Company's water was laid on to Sussex Cottage, Barrack Road, Vine Cottage, The Common, Little Common and Beeches Farm, as the well water was found liable to contamination.

In a few cases, in consequence of non-payment of the Water Rate, the supply has been cut off. From a public health point of view it is to be regretted that some other method of recovery is not utilised.

The hamlet of Norman's Bay, which used to be known as Pevensey Sluice, is outside of the area of the Town supply. Most of the houses have rain water cisterns, and there is a supply of water drawn from the river Haven, which is passed through a shingle and sand filter into a storage tank whence the inhabitants can obtain it by means of a pump fixed over the tank. The filter beds were overhauled and deepened by the addition of fresh sand, and the pump seen to; the top padlocked down to prevent dirty water being used to start it. The water has remained clean and satisfactory during the year.

The quarterly analysis by Dr. Bernard Dyer are here appended:—

ANALYTICAL LABORATORY,

17, GREAT TOWER STREET,

LONDON, E.C.

Results of Analysis of Samples of Town Water.

	No. 1. 21st May, 13. Grains per gallon.	No. 2. 11th Aug., 13. Grains per gallon.	No. 3. 22nd Oct., 13. Grains per gallon.	No. 4. 21st Jan., 14 Grains per gallon.
Total Dissolved matter	16·80	16·80	14·84	16·80
Loss on Incineration of				
Residue	1·12	·84	·84	1·12
Chlorine in Chlorides...	3·80	3·60	2·80	3·60
(Equal to Chloride of				
Sodium)	(6·26)	(5·93)	(4·61)	(5·93)
Nitrogen in Nitrates	inappreci- able	inappreci- able	inappreci- able	inappreci- able
(Equal to Nitric Acid)				
Free (actual or saline)	—	—	—	—
Ammonia... ..	·001	·001	·001	·001
Albuminoid (organic)				
Ammonia... ..	·001	·001	·001	·001
Oxygen absorbed by				
Oxidisable Organic				
Matter, &c., from a				
solution of Perman-				
ganate of Potash at				
a temperature of				
80° Fahrenheit—				
In 15 minutes ...	·003	·003	·003	·005
In 4 hours ...	·008	·006	·008	·010
Phosphoric Acid ...	traces	traces	traces	traces
Appearances in 2ft. tube	clear	clear	clear	clear
Hardness, before boiling	...	...	7½ degrees.	
Hardness, after boiling	...	...	3 degrees.	

No. 1—This water is of a high degree of purity, both chemically and bacteriologically.

No. 2—This water is of a high degree of purity, from both a chemical and a bacteriological point of view.

No. 3—This water is of a highly satisfactory degree of purity, both chemically and bacteriologically.

No. 4—This water is of a very high degree of purity, bacteriologically as well as chemically.

The results of bacteriological examinations of this water are more than usually good.

Bexhill Day Nursery.

Started with the object of caring for infants and young children during the day and thus enabling the mothers to go out to work during the summer season. The work was continued during the year under the supervision of a Committee, with Mrs. Paton as President.

Premises were rented (Klerksdorp, Amherst Road), and the Nursery was open for nineteen weeks—May 15th to September 25th—during which time seven hundred and eighty-four children were received, an average of $8\frac{1}{2}$ per day.

Commencing with a balance of £19 11s. 11d., a sum of £50 5s. 3½d. was raised by subscriptions, and £12 11s. 3d., fees for children. At the close a balance of £1 11s. 9d. remained.

It is to be regretted that, seeing the useful character of the work, the Committee felt obliged to report:—

“During the two seasons the Day Nursery has been open the working expenses have proved heavy, though every care has been exercised to keep them low. It seems impossible to work economically on a small scale, and the Committee, while they know the Day Nursery has been of great benefit to many mothers and children, regret they cannot, in the circumstances, recommend its continuance.”

Sewerage.

The alterations in the Sewerage system by the construction of the additional storage tanks and provision of storm water overflow and storm water relief sewer, with enlargement of part of the existing sewer, has been completed, and considerable relief has resulted to the low-lying parts, which had been subject to back flooding.

With the exception of small extensions, no new sewerage work has been carried out during the year.

The report of the Departmental Committee *re* Intercepting Traps and Fresh Air Inlets in House Drains has engaged the attention of a Sub-Committee, who decided to have observations made of their working in certain parts of the district, and, for the present, to adhere to their use.

House Refuse.

The house refuse is removed by the Council once a week in the majority of cases, but from the large hotels and boarding houses the removal takes place twice a week, and in a few cases daily.

The Council are utilising a piece of waste land on the western side of the town, which they are raising by a mixture of refuse and earth to deodorize and disinfect it. Each load is treated as soon as it arrives, in order to minimise any nuisance, a larger percentage of earth being used of late to prevent overheating.

Camps.

The Working Lads Brigade held a camp at Veness Gap during the month of August. At the time of inspection about 300 boys were present. The conditions found were good, with the exception that the connection of the urinal and pail closets with the branch drain had not been carried out. It is satisfactory to note that each boy before joining camp has to procure a certificate of freedom from infectious disease.

A Camp was also held during August in a field off Gunter's Lane for boys belonging to the Boys Life Brigade. The camp was pitched under the supervision and inspection of the Sanitary Authority.

Prosecutions for Nuisances.

The Marine Store in Chandler Road had been the subject of repeated notices on account of its wet, unpaved, and insanitary condition. The owner was prosecuted, and, on payment of the costs, undertook to carry out the required work. The premises, used as a work shop, being without closet accommodation, a closet attached by drain to the sewer was put in. A further summons was taken out in consequence of the delay in providing a proper water supply to the closet. The work required has been carried out.

A plot of land in Chandler Road had been used by vans, and, owing to the want of sanitary conveniences, the soil had become wet, insanitary, and the subject of complaints. The owner did not abate the nuisance when called upon, and was therefore summoned.

Housing of the Working Classes.

The question has engaged the serious consideration of the Council during the year. It was brought into prominence by a letter received from a ratepayer, asking that the Council should take into consideration the question of putting into operation Part III of the Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909. The Council appointed a Committee to examine into and report on the subject. As a preliminary for purposes of information the Committee, by advertisement, invited such persons as required and were unable to get proper housing accommodation to fill up forms. Possibly from the fear that information so given would be made public, only a very few genuine forms were filled up.

The question of the need for further cottages must be dependent on the amount of work to be had in the Borough. The staple industry requiring labour being the building trade and development of estates by new roads, etc., the demand for labour must vary. While the trade has been active for some years, a slight reaction appears to have set in for a time, and the Unemployment Bureau locally reports a larger percentage of men out of work this winter than in previous years. During the spring and summer the houses suitable for the working classes appear practically to have been all taken, and a real need for further cottages then existed. To relieve such

need the Committee felt that they could rely to a certain extent on private enterprise. During the year plans for 45 cottages have been passed, including 8 cottages at Sidley, built by the Bexhill Co-operative Cottage Society, and 22 at Little Common, work on which has been started. But for the high price of land and increasing price of building construction, the number would have probably been larger. To relieve the congestion caused by more than one family living in one house lower rentals are necessary, and it is doubtful if private owners can, under the present Building Bye-Laws, construct sanitary houses to let at a rental which will meet the want. Such rent might be 5/- a week. The majority of families inhabiting a part of one house, generally consisting of three rooms, pay from 4/- to 4/6 per week, and express their inability to pay more. The question of the alteration of the Bye-Laws, to promote further building, is receiving the attention of the Buildings Committee.

Housing Regulations.

During the year a number of houses were inspected. As the Urban portion, which gives housing accommodation to the major portion of the Borough is quite modern, the houses show very few structural faults. The faults generally found have been damp and want of re-papering and re-painting, with other minor defects to sinks, gullies, &c.

The Sanitary Inspector was appointed in July to act under Art. I, Housing Regulations. A house-to-house inspection was made of part of the district, including Salisbury and Chandler Roads.

The number of dwelling-houses inspected under and for the purposes of Section 17 of the Act of 1909	...	...	123
The number of dwelling-houses, which, on inspection, were considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	1
The number of representations made to the local Authority, with a view to the making of closing orders	...	...	1
The number of closing orders made	...	...	1
The number of dwelling-houses, the defects of which were remedied without the making of closing orders	...	...	13
The number of dwelling houses which, after the making of closing orders were put into a state fit for human habitation	...	...	1
The number of houses re-built and enlarged	...	...	1
The number of houses condemned and closed by owners without representation by, but by advice of local Authority	...	...	3
The number of Notices sent, requiring repair	...	...	65

Drainage and Other Work carried out by the Sanitary Inspector during the Year 1913.

Sewers or Combined Drains.

Three lengths of combined drainage, coming under the definition of a sewer, have been relaid during the year by the Local Authority.

Sanitary Certificates.

During the year the drainage system and sanitary arrangements of 19 houses were examined and tested by request for sanitary certificates. Three special certificates were granted as the conditions for the issue of same were complied with. In sixteen cases certificates (not special) were issued in consequence of certain sanitary fittings or arrangements not strictly complying with the regulations, but complying with the Bye-laws. Amount in fees received £9 3s.

As stated in my last year's report, I still come across alterations being made to drains and the sanitary arrangements of houses, of which there has been no notice given to the Council. It is important that the Bye-law as to giving notice should be enforced, as unless this is done the work is often carried out in an unsatisfactory manner, as has been found on various occasions.

Drainage of New Buildings under the Supervision of the Sanitary Inspector.

In addition to the work stated in the following tables, the examination and testing of all new drainage work and sanitary arrangements has been carried out so as to comply with the Building Bye-laws.

Drainage Work.

Premises provided with drain and connected to common sewer	1
Premises redrained into the common sewer	40
Drains repaired and made watertight or part relaid	21
New portions of drains added to existing system of house drainage	4
Premises redrained and connected to watertight cesspools ...	2
Cesspools or cesspits emptied and cleansed or filled up with clean solid material	5
Privies or earth closets abolished, and properly constructed water closets provided in lieu of same	6
Privies abolished and earth closets provided	2

No I.—Inspections.—Inspections made and Drainage tested, &c.

PARTICULARS.		
To drains opened for examination, <i>re</i> complaint ...	...	22
„ Drains opened for examination, <i>re</i> certificates ...	...	15
„ Visits to examine or test old drains or sanitary fittings	...	536
„ Visits to test by water, drains or portions of drains or examine sanitary fittings ...	...	856
„ Smoke test applied to drains or soil pipes ...	...	47
„ Notices served on Occupiers under Sec. 41 P.H.A. to enter on premises to examine drain ...	...	23

No. II.—Work Executed by Owners.

NATURE OF WORK.	Verbal or Written Notice.	Final Notice.	Total.
To drain taken up and re-laid to the common sewer and properly ventilated ...	40		40
„ Repair drain and make same watertight	22		22
„ Properly construct watertight drain, and connect same to common sewer...	1		1
„ Properly construct watertight drain, and connect same to watertight covered and ventilated cesspool ...	2	1	3
„ Portion of drain laid and connected to existing drainage system...	3		3
„ Remove the defective and leaky zinc soil pipe ventilator, and replace by 4-in. iron pipe...	3		3
„ Remove existing soil pipe, T piece, and ventilator, and re-place the same by 4-in. iron pipe with molten lead joints and carried up so as to form a safe outlet for sewer air ...	10		10
„ Repair the joints of soil pipe or drain ventilator ...	22		22
„ Remove defective form of closet and replace by a more efficient form of closet...	5		5
„ Properly ventilate drain or soil pipe, so as to form a safe outlet for sewer air ..	2	1	3
Total ...	110	2	112

Slaughter Houses

Have been frequently inspected. In No. 4 it was found that from the absence of a catchpit for blood the drain was frequently blocked. This has been fixed and the drain relayed.

The lease of No. 1 expired at the end of the year and was not renewed, as the land is required for development. During the autumn frequent visits of inspection showed that the proper standard of cleanliness was not maintained. As a relatively large amount of killing was done there by several butchers it is to be hoped that the future buildings to replace it will, by position and ease of access, allow for frequent inspection.

During the month of November, in consequence of cases of Foot and Mouth Disease in the neighbourhood, and the regulations of the Board of Agriculture as to moving cattle in infected areas, some inconvenience resulted by animals being slaughtered outside slaughter houses. The same result was experienced with pigs, in consequence of an outbreak of swine fever.

The Committee have declared their intention of taking proceedings against any butcher killing outside a licensed slaughter house.

There are one registered and three licensed slaughter houses in the district.

No. 1 (licensed) in Parish Meadow.

No. 2 (registered) in High Street.

No. 3 (licensed) in Kennells Road, Little Common.

No. 4 (licensed) at Cobbs Hill.

No. I.—Inspection.

Including inspections made by Medical Officer and Sanitary Inspector.

Particulars.	Inspections	Notices.
Slaughter-houses	45	6
Total	45	6

No. II.—Defects Found.

Particulars.	Found.	Remedied
To thoroughly cleanse or lime-wash slaughter-house	1	1
„ Empty blood pit and remove offal from slaughter-house ...	3	3
„ Cleanse floors of slaughter-house or lairs	2	2
„ Provide proper apparatus for spraying fat	—	—
Total	6	6

Cowsheds, Dairies, & Milkshops Order, 1885.

At the end of the year there were in the district :—

16 Cowkeepers	15 Dairymen
5 Cowkeepers & Purveyors	13 Purveyors

Four of the sheds became empty during the year, the cowkeepers having given up business.

The sheds and milkshops were inspected twice in the year, and extra visits were paid where thought necessary. The conditions may generally be described as good, but in some cases conditions were found calling for remedy, such as :—

Neglect of proper grooming of the cows was noticeable, chiefly in some of the smaller sheds, and during the winter months, the excuse given being understaffing. A circular letter was sent round in January, calling attention to the need for scrupulous cleanliness in washing hands, udders, etc., before milking.

Accumulation of manure close to the outside of the sheds, in one case close to the milk cooling store. This habit is to be depreciated, and leads to the milk becoming contaminated by flies, etc. A clear interval should be provided.

Want of cleanliness in the lower part of walls of cowsheds. This condition was improved during the year, but where still existing was generally found due to the objectionable habit of pitchforking manure through the window to save the trouble of carting it out in a barrow.

Structural alterations were found required in three cases. In one the cowshed was entirely remodelled, drained, and the town water supply laid on. In another case a practically new shed is being provided, to replace the present defective one. In the third case a new shed, of a much more suitable character, has been provided and paved, to replace a dilapidated, ill-ventilated one, which has been given up.

There have been two changes of Dairymen, and for another one fresh premises have been opened. There has been a transfer of cowkeeping in one instance.

COWSHEDS, &c. I.—Inspection.

Including inspections made by Medical Officer & Sanitary Inspector.

Premises.	Inspections	Notices.
Cowsheds, Dairies, or Milkshops ...	172	71
Total	172	71

II.—Defects Found and Notices Served, &c.

Particulars.	Found.	Complied with.
To cleanse & linewash cowsheds, dairy, or milk store	6	6
„ Thoroughly cleanse floors or walls or roofs of cowshed, dairy, or milk store	14	14
„ Repair defective paving of cowshed, dairy, or milk store	10	10
„ Provide proper light and ventilation to cowshed or dairy	2	2
„ Provide drain to cowshed	2	2
„ „ Milk store	1	1
„ Cleanse out water storage tank	1	1
„ Cleanse udders or hindquarters of cows or hands of cowman	13	13
„ Remove accumulations of manure	5	5
„ Provide a proper water supply	1	1
„ Cleanse milking utensils	1	1
„ Register premises	4	4
„ Provide copper for heating water	—	—
„ Cover milk vessels	3	3
„ Provide suitable arrangements for washing hands	3	3
„ Render walls of cowshed with cement	1	1
„ Provide shed for milk utensils	1	1
„ Provide receptacle for scalding cans	1	1
„ Discontinue using building which is unsuitable for a cowshed	2	2
Total	71	71

Factory and Workshop Act, 1901.

Administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in connection with **Factories, Workshops, Laundries, Workplaces, and Homework.**

The general conditions found were satisfactory. Overcrowding was found in one case and was remedied.

Owing to the dissemination of dust, the conditions of carding of wool were not found satisfactory, with one exception, in which a special machine has been provided, constructed with exhaust to collect the dust.

In some of the Laundries the condition of the floors and walls called for more cleanliness.

In several cases of Boot Makers the finishing machines, which were worked by treadles have been replaced by motors with exhaust fitted to take off the dust.

Considerable extra trouble has been caused by the employers failing to send in lists of employed twice a year as provided by the Act.

1.—Inspection.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector or Inspector of Nuisances.

Premises.	Inspections.	Written Notices.
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	68	5
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	181	32
Total	249	37

2.—Defects Found.

Particulars.	Found.	Re-medied.
Want of Cleanliness	36	36
Overcrowding	1	1
Want of Drainage of Floors	—	—
Other Nuisances	5	5
Sanitary Accommodation, Unsuitable or Defective	5	5
Total	47	47

3.—Home Work—Out Workers.

Nature of Work.	List received from Employers.				For-warded to other Councils	Failing to send List.	Inspections of Out-Workers' Premises.
	Sending twice in the year.		Sending once in the year.				
	Lists.	Work-men.	Lists.	Work-men.			
Wearing Apparel—							
Making, etc.			6	5		4	5
Furniture & Upholstery			2	3			1

4.—Registered Workshops and Workplaces.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year.	Number.
Bakehouses	14
Boot Makers	12
Dressmakers and Milliners	18
Laundries (including Factory Laundries)	19
Others (see list in Health Report)	136
Total number of Workshops on Register	199

5.—Other Matters.

Class.	Number
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories:—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 133)	4
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 5)	—
Notified by H.M. Inspector	—
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector ...	—
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101)	
Certificates granted during the year	—
In use at the end of the year	1

Bakehouses.

Visits have been paid to examine as to cleanliness, often of a surprise nature, during the extra work of the season.

With the exception of minor defects in a few instances, and want of cleansing and whitewashing in others, the standard has improved during the year.

One change of tenancy has taken place.

I.—Inspection.

Including Inspections made by Medical Officer and Sanitary Inspector.

Premises.	Inspections.	Notices
Bakehouses and Flour Stores	59	14
Total	59	14

Defects Found.

Particulars.	Found.	Re-medied
To cleanse or whitewash Bakehouses & Flour Stores, and clean paint work	4	4
To cleanse floor of Bakehouse... ..	9	9
To discontinue keeping fuel in bakehouse	1	1
Total	14	14

Business.	Number of Premises included in Register as		
	Factory	Workshop.	Workplaces.
Bakers and Confectioners	3	14	
Blind Makers... ..		2	
Bottling Stores	2	3	
Boot Makers	7	12	
Brick and Sanitary Pipe Makers ...	1		
Brick Makers... ..			3
Carpenters and Joiners	5	8	
Carriage Builders and Wheelwrights	1	4	
Corn Merchants (Electric Motor Employed)	2		
Cycle Makers... ..		6	
Dressmakers and Milliners		18	
Dressmakers (Domestic)		5	
Electric Light Works	1		
Engineers and Motor Works	4	1	
Firewood Works	1		
French Polishers & Cabinet Makers		5	
Gas Works	2		
Hair Dressers		11	
Laundries	4	15	
Laundries (Domestic)		4	
Mineral Water Manufacturers	3	1	
Painters and Sign Writers		13	
Photographers		3	
Picture Frame Makers		1	
Plumbers and Gas Fitters		15	
Printers	2	1	
Saddlers and Harness Makers		3	
Sausage Maker	1		
Saw Mills (Timber)	1		
Shoeing and General Smiths		8	
Stable Yards and Motor Garages ..		5	9
Stone Masons... ..		1	
Tailors... ..		11	
Upholsterers		7	
Umbrella Repairers		1	
Watch Makers		5	
TOTAL	40	183	12

Complaints received during the Year.

No. of complaints received from—	No.
Drains and closets choked or in defective condition ...	10
Foul state of closets, urinals, or privies ...	7
Offensive smells from sewer grids or street gullies ...	5
" " cesspools overflowing ...	2
House or Workroom overcrowded or in an insanitary condition ...	3
" " walls damp and leaky roofs ...	5
Animals kept in such a state as to be a nuisance ...	2
Accumulation of garden, trade refuse or manure ...	22
Houses or premises without a proper water supply ...	5
Closets without a proper water supply ...	1
Pond, ditch, or watercourse in a foul state ...	2
Premises without dust receptacles ...	2
House refuse not removed ...	9
Stables, yards, or back passages, etc., in an insanitary condition ...	5
Discharge of black smoke ...	3
Accumulation of water in cellars ...	1
Coach-houses or temporary buildings used for sleeping purposes ...	1
Back flooding from surface water ...	2
Complaints made and found not to be a nuisance or injurious to health ...	31
Total ...	118

Complaints attended to and Inspections made.

No. of Houses and other premises inspected ...	249
" Complaints attended to ...	118
" Inspections cowsheds, dairies, etc. ...	172
" " bakehouses ...	59
" " slaughter houses ...	53
" " factories, workshops, or workplaces ...	249
" Samples of water taken for analysis ...	7
" Visits <i>re</i> work in hand, serving notices, and sundry purposes ...	781
" Letters written in connection with drainage and other matters ...	722

Housing Regulations, 1910.

No. of Houses inspected ...	123
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Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909.

No. of Houses inspected ...	20
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In the following tables are given the number of Notices served on owners for the abatement or suppression of nuisances, or for carrying into effect other sanitary work which has been duly carried out.

Work Executed by Owners.

PARTICULARS.	Verbal or Written Notices		
	Final Notices.		
To provide the premises with a proper covered dust bin	12	2	14
„ Provide the premises with a proper water supply ...	2		2
„ Lay on a proper and permanent water supply to closets or urinals	8	1	9
„ Provide and fix proper waste pipes or trap, lengthen same or clear same	49		49
„ Repair defective paving of scullery, yard, cellar or stable	79		79
„ Clear choked drains or closets	13		13
„ Provide proper constructed water closet in lieu of privies or earth closets	4		4
„ Properly cleanse or cover drinking water cisterns or tanks	9		9
„ Repair scullery sink or fix new sink	13		13
„ Provide and fix anti-syphonage pipes to closet traps	2	1	3
„ Provide inspection chamber	3		3
„ Properly cover or seal down or make water-tight inspection chambers	49		49
„ Repair of brickwork round top of well or cover same	1		1
„ Provide and fit suitable cover to cesspool ...	1		1
„ Repair defective and leaky roofs, walls or ceilings ...	40		40
„ Fix new pan or trap to w.c.	7		7
„ Provide and fix flushing cistern to w.c.	2		2
„ Repair flushing apparatus	31		31
„ Pave yards	8		8
„ Provide guttering or down pipes or repair or clear same	36		36
„ Repair fresh air inlet ventilors	34		34
„ Remove refuse from vacant plots of ground and cleanse site	9		9
„ Fix disc in syphon traps	3		3
„ Empty and cleanse cesspools	1		1
„ Provide drains to cellar or stable	1		1
„ Repair window frames, or sashes, or floors ...	18		18
„ Render walls of urinals or closets			
„ Empty and cleanse cesspits and fill up with solid material	5		5
„ Provide ventilation under floors, or cover site with concrete	6		6
„ Thoroughly cleanse and whitewash interior of house or rooms	24		24
„ Cleanse drains, closets, or yards, etc.	65		65
„ Abate overcrowding	10		10
„ Carry up soil pipe ventilators above windows ...	2		2
„ Provide new pump to well or cesspool	7		7
„ Render outside walls	1		1
„ Provide damp course	6		6
„ Provide ventilation to rooms or workshops ..	6		6
„ Provide earth closet in lieu of privy	3		3
„ Provide light or ventilation to w.c.'s	1		1
„ Provide light or ventilation to w.c.'s	2		2
Total	573	4	577

In the following table are given the number of notices served on occupiers in each case for the abatement or suppression of nuisances, or for carrying into effect other sanitary work which has been duly carried out.

Work Executed by Occupiers.

PARTICULARS.	Verbal or Written Notices.
To thoroughly cleanse interior of house or rooms ...	3
„ Repair flushing apparatus ...	1
„ Remove accumulation of manure, vegetable matter, fish offal, or trade refuse ...	13
„ Empty or cleanse cesspools, ditch, water closets, earth closets, urinals, privies, yards, stables, cellars, drains, etc.	24
„ Clear drain ...	9
„ Abate overcrowding ...	4
„ Discontinue keeping animals so as to be a nuisance ...	10
„ Discontinue conveying offensive matter through public streets during prohibited hours ...	6
„ Discontinue discharging black smoke ...	2
„ Provide receptacles for offal ...	1
„ Discontinue using shed for sleeping purposes ...	0
„ Seal down chamber covers ...	3
<hr/>	
Total ...	76

American Gooseberry Mildew Order, 1912.

During the year 5 gardens within the Borough were found to be infected with disease, and notices were served on the occupiers as required by the regulations, also inspections and re-inspections have been made.

In three cases the whole of the diseased bushes were destroyed, the remaining two cases the bushes have been pruned in compliance with the requirements of the order, and the cuttings burnt.

No. of Leaflets sent to wholesale dealers, growers and greengrocers ...	29
No. of Notices served on occupiers of gardens ...	14
„ Notices sent to Board of Agriculture Inspector ...	22
„ Visits made to inspect gardens ...	31

At the end of year three gardens were declared free by the Board of Agriculture.

TABLE I.—Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1913 and previous Years.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.					
		Un- corrected Number.	Nett.	Number	Rate.	Non-residents registered in the District.	of Residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages.			
								Number	Rate.	Number	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number	Rate
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
1908	16126	297		18'56	155	9'68	7		24	74'07	118	7'37	
1909	16192	241		14'87	161	9'93	17		16	66'39	127	7'84	
1910	16604	250		15'13	131	7'93	18		13	52'00	113	6'66	
1911	15500	241	248	16'00	176	12'64	30	20	29	116'93	166	10'7	
1912	15728	251	255	16'21	149	9'47	23	22	18	70'58	148	9'4	
1913	16000	241	244	15'25	162	10'03	33	24	13	53'27	153	9'47	

TABLE II.—Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1913.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Cases Notified in whole District.							Total cases notified in each locality					Total cases removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	At Ages Years.					Under 1	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45 to 65	65 and up
		Under 1	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45							
Small-pox ...													
Diphtheria incl'dg ...	2												
Membranous Croup ...	2			2									
Erysipelas ...	39		8	25	3	3							
Scarlet Fever ...													1
Typhus Fever ...													
Enteric Fever ...													
Relapsing Fever ...													
Continued Fever ...													
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis ...													
Pulmonary Tuberculosis... Primary	33		1	2	4	19							
Notification... 29													
Other forms of Tuberculosis...	5		4	1									
Measles ...	124	2	27	81	13								
Rotheln ...	8		2	5	1								
Totals ...	213	2	42	116	21	22	10						
								Sackville Ward.	Central Ward.	E. Park Ward.	Old Town Ward.	S. Mark's Ward.	Total cases removed to Hospital.
								1	2	3	4	5	
								1	1				
								2	15	2	3	17	33
								3	10	4	3	7	7
								2	1			2	
								42	5	17	38	22	
								2	3	3			
								52	43	26	44	48	41

Infectious Disease Hospital, Clinch Green, Bexhill Borough.

Eversfield Chest Hospital, St. Leonards-on-Sea (National Insurance) Sanatoria for Consumptives.
Portslade Sanatorium, Portslade

Battle Union. Eversfield Chest Hospital. Ore Sanatoria (Private).

TABLE III.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1913.

CAUSES OF DEATH.			Net Deaths at the subjoined Ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District.								Total Deaths whether of Residents or Non-Residents in Public Institutions in District, and of Visitors.	
			All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.		65 and upwards.
1			2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
All causes	Certified	...	151	13	4	3	6	4	26	35	60	
	Uncertified	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	
Measles	...	...	3	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Scarlet Fever	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Influenza	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	
Erysipelas	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	...	...	14	...	...	...	1	1	10	2	...	
Other tuberculous diseases	...	...	4	...	1	1	...	1	...	1	...	1
Cancer (malignant disease)	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	2	5	13	8
Meningitis	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Organic Heart Disease	...	...	11	...	...	...	...	1	...	4	6	2
Bronchitis	...	...	3	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	5	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	2	2
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	2	3
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	...	...	3	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	...	...	5	...	...	...	2	...	2	1	...	2
Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	2
Other accidents and diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth	...	...	7	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	1	
Suicide	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	
Other Defined Diseases	...	...	50	2	...	...	1	...	3	11	33	14
Diseases ill-defined or unknown	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	
All causes	...	...	153	13	4	3	6	4	26	35	62	37

TABLE IV.

Infant Mortality during the Year 1912.

CAUSE OF DEATH.			Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 4 Weeks.	4 weeks to 3 Months.	3-6 Months.	6-9 Months.	9-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
ALL CAUSES	Certified	..	3	1	1	2	7	2	2		2	13
	Uncertified	...										
Measles	...	...			...	...	...	...	...		1	1
Scarlet Fever	...	...		..	...	..	...	...	..	...	...
Convulsions	...	...	1	...	...	..	1	..	...	...	...	1
Bronchitis	..	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	1	...	1	2
Pneumonia, all forms	..	..	..	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	..
Enteritis	..	...	..	...	...	...	...	1	1	..	...	2
Suffocation, overlying	..	...	..	..	...	...	...	..	...	..	...
Atelectasis	..	..	..	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	..
Congenital Malformations (c)	...	...	..	..	...	...	..	...	..	..	..
Premature Birth	...	...	2	...	...	2	4	...	...	...	...	4
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	..	...	...	1	1	...	2	1	...	...	...	3
Other Causes	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total			3	1	1	2	7	2	2	...	2	13

Nett Births in the Year { Legitimate 222
 { Illegitimate 22

Nett Deaths in the year of { Legitimate 10
 { Illegitimate 3

Meteorological Matters.

During the last six months :—

758 Visits have been made and
771 Reports issued.

In addition to the above, the Daily Weather Report, issued by The Meteorological Office, London, has been posted up on the Marina; also a chart, showing the daily values of the Barometer, and the Maximum and Minimum Thermometers, and the records of rainfall, sunshine, and humidity, experienced at Bexhill, has been prepared at the end of each month and exhibited at the local Meteorological Station.

For the months of July to October, inclusive, the records shewed a daily mean of 5·10 hours of sunshine. These records for this period have not been equalled by any other recording station on the South-East Coast.

Geology.

The highest points in the district are 157 feet above the sea level. The church in the old village is situated on one, and the other is just outside Sidley, near Mayo's Farm. According to the geological survey there is a good deal of variety in the soil in different parts of the district. The sub-soil is of Wadhurst clay, with patches of Tunbridge Wells sand of various size and thickness, on one of which the old village stands. Underlying this there are beds of sandstone and Ashdown sand. There is a narrow strip of Ashdown sand along the shore, extending from Bulverhythe on the east to near Kewhurst on the west. The widest part of this is near the west station, where it extends a little north of the railway line. It is interrupted at the eastern end by a small patch of Fairlight clay. On the north-east, Buckholt, there is an outcrop of Ashdown sand at the head of a small valley of alluvium, through which the river Asten finds its way to the sea. West of Kewhurst there is marshy land, consisting of alluvium with two or three patches of brown sand, lying just north of Pevensey Sluice, where there is also a small patch of Wadhurst clay. The shore is of sand and sandstone, with beds of lignite from two feet to six inches in thickness.

BEXHILL METEOROLOGICAL REPORT, 1913.

1913	Year's Sunshine.		Year's Rain.		MEANS OF TEMPERATURES, &c.													EXTREMES OF TEMPERATURE.													DIRECTION OF WIND.																
	HRS.	INS.	Barometer.	Attached Thermometer.	Sunshine.	Days with sun.	Days no sun.	Rain.	Days with rain.	Days no rain.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Dry Bulb.	Wet Bulb.	Sun's Temperature.	Grass Temperature.	Earth Temperature.	Maximum.	Date.	Minimum.	Date.	Maximum Dry Bulb.	Date.	Minimum Wet Bulb.	Date.	Sun's Max. Temp.	Date.	Grass Min. Temp.	Date.	Earth Max. Temp.	Date.	Barometer Highest.	Date.	Sunshine Highest.	Date.	Rainfall Highest.	Date.	Calm.	N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.	
January	53.4	3.92	29.8	51.3	1.7	18	13	0.126	21	10	47.2	40.5	44.0	43.1	74.6	36.5	47.2	50.0	8	32.0	13	50.0	25	34.0	22	105.0	16	23.0	13	47.0	10	30.35	26	6.5	12	0.61	13		2		3	4	8	7	5	2	
February	85.1	0.94	30.23	52.2	3.0	19	8	0.033	9	19	46.4	39.0	43.1	40.9	78.8	33.8	44.2	54.0	11	31.0	14	50.0	3	32.0	19	112.0	8	25.0	19	47.0	8	30.72	12	8.4	22	0.41	1		2	7	2	3	4	3	6	1	
March ...	111.4	2.13	29.94	53.7	3.6	26	5	0.069	25	6	50.0	41.7	46.2	44.3	97.3	37.0	46.3	53.0	4	31.0	18	50.0	3	34.0	18	117.0	23	24.0	18	49.0	31	30.45	10	9.4	18	0.43	16		2	2	1	5	2	9	8	2	
1st QUARTER			30.01	52.4	2.8			0.076			47.9	40.4	44.4	42.8	83.6	35.8	45.9	52.3		31.3		50.0		33.3		111.3		24.0		47.7		30.51		8.1		0.48											
April ...	136.9	2.67	29.91	55.9	4.6	28	2	0.089	19	11	52.2	42.9	48.9	46.4	101.8	38.4	49.5	63.0	23	32.0	13	62.0	23	36.0	13	117.0	25	26.0	13	54.0	30	30.18	14	11.5	23	0.51	11		3	6	1	5	3	8	3	1	
May ...	234.2	0.71	29.98	61.6	7.6	30	1	0.023	9	24	60.0	48.8	55.7	52.7	110.0	45.4	56.6	73.0	26	38.0	7	67.0	27	44.0	4	122.0	29	33.0	7	63.0	3	30.37	25	13.7	30	0.15	12		2	2	1	7	6	8	1	4	
June ...	213.3	0.75	30.17	64.6	7.1	29	1	0.025	10	20	64.3	52.4	60.3	55.1	115.3	47.8	60.9	79.0	29	44.0	9	72.0	17	50.0	1	125.0	29	39.0	9	63.0	4	30.43	28	13.7	2	0.28	20		1		3	4	1	11	6	4	
2nd QUARTER			30.02	60.7	6.4			0.046			58.8	48.0	55.0	51.4	109.0	43.9	55.7	71.7		38.0		67.0		43.3		121.3		32.7		60.0		30.33		13.0		0.31											
July ...	151.1	2.23	30.09	62.9	4.9	30	1	0.072	14	17	65.4	53.9	60.1	55.9	111.1	50.1	62.2	75.0	31	46.4	8	65.0	31	51.0	23	123.0	7	39.0	8	63.7	14	30.42	1	13.2	29	0.66	14		7	8	3		1	2	4	6	
August	186.7	2.40	30.11	64.3	6.0	30	1	0.077	9	22	66.6	55.6	63.0	58.3	110.6	49.9	63.5	77.0	27	51.0	4	70.0	28	51.3	7	125.0	27	39.5	24	65.3	29	30.34	26	12.4	25	1.30	31		1	1	7	7	5		1	5	4
September	163.3	1.93	30.01	63.1	5.4	29	1	0.064	12	18	65.0	55.2	60.5	57.8	104.1	50.3	61.8	70.0	3	47.6	9	64.8	26	53.0	10	115.0	9	42.3	15	64.0	1	30.32	8	11.3	8	0.61	4		1	5	5	5	3	4	3	4	
3rd QUARTER			30.07	63.4	5.4			0.071			65.7	54.9	61.2	57.3	108.6	50.1	62.5	74.0		48.3		66.6		51.8		121.0		40.3		64.3		30.36		12.3		0.88											
October	124.2	5.21	29.93	61.0	4.0	27	4	0.170	16	15	60.3	51.7	56.9	54.6	95.6	47.7	58.0	66.4	4	40.0	24	62.3	3	44.9	24	116.0	8	37.5	22	61.7	1	30.51	13	9.5	12	0.91	26		1	1	2	4	6	6	6	2	3
November	83.1	3.28	29.98	61.0	2.8	23	7	0.109	21	9	54.6	45.5	50.0	48.3	83.7	40.1	52.2	58.0	6	38.0	27	57.0	12	39.7	27	115.0	18	32.0	8	56.2	1	30.48	27	8.0	3	0.59	12		2		2	1	2	7	10	6	
December	62.2	1.55	30.15	61.2	2.0	18	13	0.050	14	17	47.0	39.0	42.7	41.1	64.5	33.9	46.5	55.0	1	29.0	29	52.7	1	29.3	29	81.0	1	22.0	29	51.2	3	30.67	21	6.7	13	0.73	23		5	5	1	1		5	8	6	
4th QUARTER			30.02	61.1	2.9			0.110			54.0	45.4	49.9	48.0	81.3	40.6	52.2	59.8		35.7		57.3		38.0		104.0		30.5		56.4		30.55		8.1		0.74			3	33	44	33	44	37	70	58	43
YEAR'S MEANS			30.03	59.4	4.4			0.076			56.6	47.2	52.6	49.9	95.6	42.6	54.1	64.4		38.3		60.2		41.6		114.4		31.9		57.1		30.44		10.4		0.60											
Year's Sun 1604.9 hrs.		Year's Rain 27.72 ins.		Hottest Day 79.0 June 29th.													Coldest Day 29.0 Dec. 29th.													Prevailing Wind S.W. 70 days.																	
Sun's Highest Temperature 125.0, June 29th & Aug. 27th.		Most Sunny Days 13.7 hrs., May 30th & June 2nd.													Wettest Day 1.36 in., Aug. 31st.													Barometer Highest 30.72, Feb. 12th.																			
Lowest Temperature on Grass 22.0, Dec. 29th.																												" Lowest 29.24, Nov. 13th.																			

Borough of Bexhill.

REPORT

OF THE

School Medical Officer

TO THE

Education Committee

FOR

**Year ended Dec. 31st,
1913.**

To the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—

I present herewith Annual Report as required by the Board of Education.

SCHOOL BUILDINGS.

There are now 7 Schools, including 12 departments.

Accommodation (at end of 1913) 2,037.

Average number on Registers, 1,700.

Average Attendance, 1,503.

Percentage of Attendance, 88.

The percentage of elementary school children to the population was 10·62.

The Education Rate for the year ending 31st March, 1913, was slightly over 9d. in the £.

During the year further accommodation has become advisable in the St. Barnabas' Girls' and Infants' School. Plans have been passed and the work will shortly be commenced of providing an additionable class room for each of these Schools.

The Managers of the St. Mark's School have also recognised the need for further accommodation in the near future, and plans for such provision are being prepared. They have also altered and improved the arrangements for heating the big class room.

During the year the Schools were free from any serious outbreak of epidemic disease, though the attendances were diminished on account of influenza in the Sluice School in the spring, and the Downs (Mixed and Infants) and St. Mary's School in December. A slight outbreak of mumps was also a cause of trouble in the Down's Infant School in December. It was not found necessary to close any of the Schools during the year.

MEDICAL INSPECTION.

Owing to the 1912 inspection taking place late in the year, and the 1913 inspection in the spring and summer, as is usual, the number inspected was less.

	1910	1911	1912	1913
Total number of children inspected	455	563	645	516

In addition 72 re-examinations have been made to follow up at the Schools, and a number of houses have been visited, either to enquire into illness, possibly of an infectious character, or, at the request of the Attendance Officer, to certify as to the fitness for School.

During the year I have attended the Dental Clinic on Saturday mornings and given gas on 107 occasions.

I have to thank the Head Teachers for putting all possible facilities at my disposal and clearing a class room for inspection, often at great inconvenience.

The children selected for inspection were: (a) on entry; (b) at about the age of nine; and (c) at 13 years of age. It is proposed in future to alter the last to 12 years of age, so as to give fuller opportunities for following up before leaving school.

The parents were present in 280 cases or 54 per cent.

I have to acknowledge the kind assistance of the Care Committee and their Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer in following up and securing treatment for cases brought to their notice. The report of their valuable work will be found appended.

Tuberculosis.—The cases of tendency to tuberculosis or pretubercular trouble shewn by impaired nutrition, bronchial catarrh, nocturnal perspiration, or enlarged glands, caused some anxiety as to methods of successfully dealing with them. As a rule the parents were urged to get immediate treatment, either from their own doctor or at the Hospital. The help of the Tuberculosis Dispensary for the purposes of further diagnosis was not available till the last day of the year. It is a matter of regret that the dependents on insured members are not at present eligible for treatment in Sanatoria and that such treatment must be sought for privately. Probably Bexhill at present is not itself large enough to form a unit for an open air school for those children who are threatened with, but in whom tubercle cannot be found, and a sanatorium for those in whom it is found, each branch being kept separate. It would be a great advantage if in conjunction with adjoining authorities and helped by the grant in aid, such a unit could be formed.

The establishment of the Dental Clinic should be of distinct service as a means of prevention. Assuming that tubercal rarely attacks glands primarily, but invades glands already enlarged, the possibility of the entrance of bovine tubercle through milk *via* carious teeth, should be greatly diminished. Further, the prevention of septic absorption from dental caries must prove a gain.

The Mental Deficiency Act comes into force shortly to deal with mental defectives. There have been three cases which will be notified under its provisions. Between the child of normal intelligence and the defective there are two groups, namely: the dull or backward child, and such of the feeble minded as are capable of receiving instruction in a special class; such children who are simply backward from past illness and have a chance of catching up the others, must be eliminated.

To keep these groups in a class of normal children is not fair to either, or to the teachers. It would be better to arrange for a special class which might be held experimentally at the Down's School, in which increased individual attention might become practicable together with more time given to hard work. Enquiries

made at the Schools shew that 59 children have been reported as being under the average intelligence, and at the Down's Infant School a further report states that in the teachers' opinion 10 of these had a harmful influence on others.

Verminous Heads.—21 visits of inspection have been paid by me to the Down's Mixed School when such a condition has been mostly found. The inspection of generally an average of 18-20 a day has been made by the teachers, whose valuable time has been much taken up thereby. The worst of the cases have been reported to me and in consequence I have inspected 95 children and excluded 38 temporarily. The services of a part-time nurse were engaged for a short period to clean the heads.

To save the teachers valuable time and to follow up the cases to their homes, educate the mothers, and secure cleanliness in home conditions, the only method by which real success can be obtained the services of a whole-time nurse are required.

In two cases in which the conditions recurred after having been cleaned by the nurse, the parents were summoned under the Attendance Byelaws, and in each case a fine was imposed.

The Schools have been frequently inspected in connection with cases notified of infectious disease, and all contacts examined. The services of a whole-time nurse would here again be of value in assisting to detect carrier cases.

DETAILS OF THE EXAMINATION.

Clothing and Footgear.—This varied with the circumstances of the parents. 85 per cent. were noted as good, 14 per cent. average, and 1 per cent. bad. Most of the two latter classes were found at the Down's Council Schools.

Height and Weight.—The boys shewed an average height of 1.02 inches above the tables, and an average weight of 2.74 lbs. under the tables. The girls shewed an average height of 1.05 inches above the tables, and an average weight of .56 lbs. below the tables. The girls were generally of a superior physique to the boys.

Nutrition.—79 per cent. were good, 19 per cent. fair, 2 per cent. below normal.

Cleanliness of Head and Body.—Head: 95 per cent. clean, and 5 per cent. somewhat dirty. Body: 98 per cent. were found to be clean, and 2 per cent. somewhat dirty. The conditions found in the heads were mainly in children from the Down's Schools, and have been alluded to.

Teeth have been inspected in such cases as were not likely to come before the Dental Clinic. In 72 per cent. they were found good, 23 per cent. fairly good, and in 5 per cent. bad. Arrangements have been made for attention to the teeth of such children as, owing to age, would not be treated by the School Dentist, by two other dentists at a reduced charge to the parents.

Tonsils.—The slightest enlargement was carefully noted, especially in the younger children, and the parents' attention called to it. They were found slightly enlarged in 139 cases (27 per cent.) and enlarged in 28 cases (5 per cent.) in most of which cases, removal was advised.

Adenoids, generally accompanying enlarged tonsils, were found in 84 cases (16 per cent.), and where they were causing symptoms of obstruction, or appeared likely to do so, removal was advised.

Glands, generally submaxillary and secondary to throat conditions, were found to be slightly enlarged in 65 cases (13 per cent.) and enlarged in 9 cases (2 per cent.)

Eye Trouble was found in 36 cases (7 per cent.) being mainly due to external causes. There were 9 cases of strabismus found, 13 of conjunctivitis, 7 of blepharitis, the others being due to marginal eczema, and similar causes.

Vision was found to be below normal in 14 cases, or 2 per cent. and the teachers and parents were requested to watch for ocular headache, or signs of eye strain. For one case a further examination was advised.

Hearing was below normal in 17 cases (3 per cent.). In 36 cases (7 per cent.) matters requiring attention were found. These chiefly consisted of otorrhœa, either constant or temporary, and of accumulations of wax in 18 cases.

Speech was good in 94 per cent. of the cases. There were 3 who stammered, and 28 who lisped or whose speech was not distinct. It was found due in the majority of the cases to a high arch of the palate.

Mental Condition.—93 per cent. were found to be bright. Thirteen children were found to be fair, 12 dull, and 14 backward. One boy, the child of parents who had recently come to Bexhill, was at thirteen years of age found to have learnt nothing, and two children were found to be mentally defective.

Heart and Circulation.—37 cases (7 per cent.) of disturbance were noticed. These were generally caused by imperfect development, shewing signs of muscular weakness, dilatation, and weak or irregular action. The parents' and teachers' attention was drawn to it, and probably such condition will disappear. In one case renal causes were found, and in three a systolic murmur. In three cases the irregularity was found due to nervous conditions.

Lungs.—In 42 cases (8 per cent.) departure from normal were found. In 24 cases traces of bronchial catarrh, either persistent or temporary, were found, and the parents' attention drawn to the need for careful watching. 4 cases of impaired or harsh breathing at the apex were noticed. 6 cases were observed as having a croupy tendency. In 4 specially delicate cases a daily allowance of milk was given through the Care Committee as an aid to treatment.

Nervous System.—110 cases were observed, of whom 63 complained at times of nervous headache, mostly probably of a slight character. 40 were found to be nervous and irritable. 2 shewed signs of chorea. 4 had a history of fits, and others had complained of vertigo, cramp or neuralgia.

Tuberculosis.—26 cases called for special attention, and the parents were requested to get further advice for them. 19 cases shewed a tubercular tendency. 3 shewed glands, probably commencing to become tubercular. 1 of these has been sent away for sanatorium treatment. 3 had nocturnal perspirations, and 1 shewed a strenuous tendency.

Rickets.—4 cases shewed signs.

Deformities were found in 23 cases. (5 per cent.). These consisted of high palate affecting speech (9), effects of infantile paralysis (1), lateral curvature of spine (2), talipes (1), old hip disease (1), Flatfoot (2), knock knee (1), amputated leg (1) and cases of imperfect development.

Other Diseases and Defects were found in 61 cases or 12 per cent. Amongst these may be noted: enlarged thyroid (6); appendix irritations (2); rupture (4); anemia (8); internal disturbance (13). When the parent was present her attention was drawn to them, and their need for remedy.

Record of Cases followed up by Medical Officer.

DEFECTS	Old cases from prev. exam.	New Cases	Total.	No Report	Treated.			Un-treated.	REMARKS.
					Cured	Im-proved.	Un-changed		
Visual Defects		6	6		3			2	Glasses changed, 2. Left School, 2.
External Eye Disease ...		1	1		1				
Teeth		18	18		8	2		5	Treatment promised, 1. Left school, 2.
Lungs		6	6			6			
Ear		9	9		5	2		1	Left school, 1.
Goitre		3	3			2			Left school, 1.
Tonsils		16	16		9	1		2	Treatment delayed, 3. Left school, 1.
Adenoids		7	7		3			2	Left School, 2.
Chorea		1	1			1			
Heart		1	1			1			
Deformities ...		2				1		1	

FREE BREAKFASTS were started on January 13th for such of the poorer children attending the Down's School, as the head teachers had pointed out as incapable of receiving instruction by improper or insufficient nourishment. The circumstances of each case were investigated by the Care Committee, and in the cases which were considered necessitous, the average income, after deducting rent, amounted only to $1/6\frac{1}{2}$ per week. The breakfasts were provided at the Down's Schools under the supervision of members of the Care Committee.

The average daily attendance was 56. The outfit and cost were met by voluntary subscriptions.

The breakfasts were continued until late in March, and the teacher's reported that the children shewed great benefit therefrom.

NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO CHILDREN.

As their work has a direct bearing upon conditions of school life, I append Inspector Sly's report:—

Annual Statistics.

"During the year 1913, I have investigated 15 cases of child neglect at Bexhill, 14 of which were dealt with by warning, and one was dropped after investigation.

48 children were affected, 21 boys and 27 girls. The offenders involved numbered 24, of whom 14 were men, and 10 women. 54 visits of supervision shew that the warnings have been heeded, and several of the cases have improved in a most gratifying manner."

I have also to thank Miss Syer, Secretary of the Charity Organization Society, for her help in some of the tubercular cases.

G. H. WESTON, M.B., CAMB.,

School Medical Officer

February 23rd, 1914.

The First Report of the Bexhill Dental Clinic,

FROM OCTOBER 26TH, 1912, TO DECEMBER 1913.

The Dental Clinic was opened on Saturday, October 26th, 1912, at the Down Council School, where a portion of one of the rooms, upstairs, is used for the Clinic.

The opening of the Clinic was preceded by a lecture on the teeth and the care of the teeth, illustrated by lantern slides, given to the parents of the school children, on Friday evening, October 18th, 1912.

The lecture was given by the School Dentist.

The Clinic was established for the treatment of the children attending the Borough Schools.

There being a great number of children, it was decided to treat those of the ages of six, seven, and eight years first. After these had been treated, to include children of nine years, at the same time examining those that had already been treated and doing any work for them, if necessary.

When the children have once been treated, the work required at the next examination by the School Dentist will be considerably less, as the teeth for the most part will only want watching.

In this way, it is hoped to gradually include *all* the children attending the Borough Schools.

The Dental Clinic is held at the Down Council School, every Saturday morning, from 9 to 12 o'clock, during School term.

The method of procedure is as follows:

The children of 6-8 years inclusive, are examined at their respective schools by the School Dentist, and a chart is made of every child's teeth, sound or otherwise.

Appointments are made for those needing treatment, and the charts are forwarded weekly to the Secretary of the Care Committee (Mrs. Meads) who in turn, fills in a paper with the name of the child requiring treatment, and the treatment necessary. These papers are then given to members of the Care Committee, who visit the parents of the children, and explain to them the necessary treatment, and get them to sign a paper, if they are willing for their child to be treated. This paper is returned to the Secretary of the Care Committee to be kept.

The Clinic is fitted out with surgery, waiting room, and recovery room (after gas).

A member of the Care Committee is always in attendance in the waiting room, where books and toys are supplied for those children waiting their turn for treatment.

The Medical Officer of Health is present during part of the morning to administer gas to children requiring several extractions, if the parent is willing; otherwise the extractions are done under local anæsthetic.

A Nurse is always in attendance during the Clinic hours.

It was at first arranged that the District Nurses should take duty in turn at the Clinic, but this was not found quite satisfactory, so the services of one nurse were engaged, which proved successful.

In the case of a child breaking an appointment, the parent is visited by a member of the Care Committee again, and if the appointment is broken twice, that child has to be crossed off, unless some good reason is given for so doing.

This rule has to be strictly adhered to, so as to give those urgently needing treatment a fair chance.

A charge of sixpence is made for each visit, unless in a case of poverty, when it is enquired into by the Care Committee, and if found genuine, the cost is paid by the Care Committee.

The receipts every Saturday morning are paid in to the Education Committee.

Some of the children showed a little indifference to the treatment at first, but little difficulty is now experienced, and many come willingly to the Clinic.

Unfortunately a few of the parents will not be persuaded to have the very necessary work done, and so these cases have to be passed untreated for the present. It is hoped they will see the necessity of it as the work proceeds.

It will be seen by the figures following, how very urgent the treatment of the teeth is amongst the school children, and in the next report, some of the benefits derived from the first year's treatment will be given.

On Friday, December 12th, 1913, a lecture was again given to the parents on the teeth and the care of the teeth. Mr. Lewin Payne, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., L.D.S., lecturer at Guy's Hospital, kindly came down, and gave his services free on that occasion.

Great help is given to the Dental Clinic by the energies of the Care Committee, in looking up the parents and children, and explaining things to them.

Tooth-brush outfits, including brush, and powder enough for 40 cleansings, at a small price of fourpence, are on sale for the children attending the Clinic every Saturday morning.

It is pleasing to note that the effects of the use of the tooth brush are becoming more evident. When the Clinic first commenced at least half the children, or if not more, never used a tooth-brush. In some cases the whole family used the same brush for cleaning their teeth.

The children between the ages of 6-8 years inclusive, have now been examined, and at the time of going to press the examining is commencing again, of children between the ages of 6-9 years inclusive.

During the past 12 months, there has been, according to reports from the schools, a marked decrease of toothache amongst the children, also a less degree of absence from school due to tooth trouble.

The following figures show in detail the work done:—

Children examined	...	...	...	256
Children with all sound teeth	...	...	...	25
Refused treatment (some had partial treatment)				84
Appointments given	...	...	...	572
Appointments kept	...	...	...	449
Appointments broken	...	...	...	123
Extractions (with injection)		...	...	220
Extractions (with gas)	...	...	...	292
Gas cases	...	...	...	107
Fillings ...	...	...	...	457
Dressings	...	...	...	23
Scalings	...	...	...	2

} 512

The reason the number of "broken appointments" is comparatively high is accounted for by illness and fever, which broke out in February, 1913.

The number of children examined will be more during the next twelve months, owing to those already seen needing little, if any, treatment.

A very pregnant observation is, of the mouths examined, only just under 10 per cent. are sound, showing the need of dental treatment.

C. H. BRADNAM, L.D.S.,

Dentist to the Education Committee.

Hon. Secretary's Report of the Work Done by the Care Committee,

FROM OCTOBER 1912, TO DECEMBER 1913.

The Elementary Schools' Care Work during 1912 and 1913, has been continued on the lines laid down in previous years. In October, 1912, a Dental Clinic in connection with the Schools' Care Work, was opened at the Down Council School.

The necessary equipment was provided by the Care Committee, who collected a special fund for the purpose. The upkeep is maintained by the Education Committee, with the help of the small fee paid for each attendance of child at the Clinic. The Dental Report is given separately by Mr. Bradnam, Dentist to the Clinic.

In January, 1913, the Care Committee collected a sum of money to provide free breakfasts during the coldest period of the year, and at the out-of-work season. These breakfasts were given only to closely investigated cases, and were partly responsible for sustaining a record attendance at the Down Council Schools. They extended over a period of nine weeks, and about sixty children participated. The thanks of the Care Committee are tendered to the teachers and others, for the willing and useful co-operation given during those meals.

The following table gives a detailed summary of the number of children who have come under the Care Committee's notice, and the treatment obtained.

It is satisfactory to note that during the period covered by this Report, October, 1912, to December, 1913, out of 120 cases visited by the Care Committee, only 23 remain untreated.

C. J. MEADS, Hon. Sec.

COMMITTEE:

Chairman: Dr. WESTON.

Hon. Treasurer: Miss J. THORNTON.

Hon. Secretary: MRS. MEADS.

MISS CRESSWELL,
MRS. FRASER,
MISS FOSTER,
MRS. KENT,
MISS NORTON,

MISS SYER,
MISS A. THORNYCROFT.
MISS ULLMER,
MISS WILLSON,
MR. GILLER,

